



NPDES No. CAS 004001 FY 08-09 ANNUAL REPORT Order No. 01-182
Los Angeles County Municipal Storm Water Permit (Order 01-182)
2008-2009 Individual Annual Report Form – City of Norwalk
Attachment U-4

Individual Annual Report Section VI. – Assessment of Program Effectiveness

VI. Assessment of Program Effectiveness

A. Attach a summary of the effectiveness of your storm water management program. This summary should include, at a minimum, the following:

1. An assessment of your agency's compliance with permit requirements, based on your responses to the questions in this form;

The City of Norwalk is in full compliance with all applicable Permit requirements. The City has completed all applicable requirements under the Los Angeles Countywide Municipal NPDES Permit.

2. Descriptions of any evaluation methods that your agency uses to determine the effectiveness of your storm water management program;

The City used the following methods to evaluate program effectiveness: (1) completion and evaluation of the annual report forms, (2) assessment of trash and debris accumulation on City streets and in City catch basins, (3) assessment of community response to new storm water requirements, (4) review of applicable studies and reports issued by other entities such as the County, environmental groups and the Regional Board, and (5) City staff participation in local water quality assessment events.

3. A summary of the strengths and weaknesses of your agency's storm water management program;

Program Strengths

- The City participates in all regular Watershed Management Committee meetings for the San Gabriel River Watershed, as well as at monthly meetings of the Executive Advisory Committee, and supports ongoing cooperative inter-city working relationships to address water quality issues.
- The City incorporates pollutant-specific information in our outreach materials whenever possible. For example, the City developed a bilingual construction activities pamphlet,



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which is given to all individual applying for a building or grading permit.

- The City continues to implement an aggressive street sweeping program. Streets and City-owned parking lots are swept weekly.
- City staff have received updated annual refresher training on program implementation, including coverage of all applicable Permit and SQMP requirements.

Program Weaknesses

- Securing adequate program funding continues to be one of the greatest challenges for the City. To an increasing extent, the City's storm water program draws significant resources away from other important City services.
 - Program requirements imposed on the City have been expanding at a rapid rate, making the costs and logistics of program implementation increasingly more challenging.
4. A list of specific program highlights and accomplishments;
- BMP Brochures – The City revised some of its BMP brochures to include updated information on pollutant-specific issues for the watershed, as well as current program requirements and contact information.
 - BMP Requirements – The City imposed BMP requirements on a number of development/redevelopment projects. In some case, these requirements went beyond the minimal requirements established under Order No. 01-182 (Permit).
 - Business Inspections – The City completed the second cycles of business inspections of critical sources, as required under the Permit by December 12, 2006. The City prepared a number of educational materials for delivery during inspections. The inspections provided an effective means of furthering City wide compliance with Permit requirements.
 - City Staff Training – City staffs were provided thorough annual refresher training on Permit requirements. Some City staff attended additional workshops and seminars on NPDES issues.



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5. A description of water quality improvements or degradation in your watershed over the past fiscal year;
 - The City of Norwalk is in the San Gabriel River Watershed. We are not aware of any significant water quality improvements or degradation in the watershed over the past fiscal year. The City is completely built-out and land use is predominantly residential, so water quality is not likely to be degraded. At the same time, storm water quality improvement requirements and activities are rapidly expanding, further ensuring water quality improvement within the watershed.
6. Interagency coordination between cities to improve the storm water management program;

The City of Norwalk participated in all Watershed Management Committee (WMC) meetings held for the San Gabriel River Watershed. The City also participated in the four Permit-mandated quarterly Public Outreach Strategy meetings, and in monthly Executive Advisory Committee meetings. All of these meetings provided excellent opportunities for the City to coordinate with other cities in the watershed to further the improvement of the storm water management program.
7. Future plans to improve your agency's storm water management program; and

The City plans to continue to provide BMP brochure handouts during the business inspections. The brochures incorporate pollutant-specific outreach information for the watershed, as well as provide a summary of Permit requirements and environmental contact information for local and State agencies.
8. Suggestions to improve the effectiveness of your program or the County model programs.

Program requirements – The Permit, SQMP, and other program documents are often unclear or ambiguous. Obtaining clear, written guidance and direction on ambiguous requirements continues to present challenges.

City programs are increasingly challenged by the constrained availability of economic resources for program support. The creation of viable sources of program support funding would greatly improve the program's effectiveness.



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- B. On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being full implementation of requirements by their deadlines), rate your municipality's level of compliance with Order No. 01-182.
10. We believe that we are in full compliance with applicable Permit requirements.
- C. List any suggestions your agency has for improving program reporting and assessment.
- Norwalk has no further suggestions for improving program reporting and assessment at this time.